DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH). (a) to (c) The information is being collected and the same, to the extent available and admissible will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Creation of separate cell by Nationalised Banks for Disposal of Loan applications of Women Entrepreneurs**

88. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue instructions to all the nationalised banks to create separate cells for expeditious disposal of loan applications from women entrepreneurs;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal, and

(c) by what time the above proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have not issued instructions to the banks for the creation of such a separate cell. However, women entrepreneurs, like other beneficiaries, can approach commercial banks for financial assistance, who may consider their request depending upon the technical feasibility and economic viability of the proposal. In terms of guidelines issued by RBI to all Scheduled Commercial Banks for priority sector advances, banks have been advised to dispose of all loans applications, including those of the women entrepreneurs, upto Rs. 25,000/- within a fornight and those over Rs. 25,000/- within 8 to 9 weeks.

**Financial position of the Nationalised Banks**

89. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in "The Hindustan Times" dated 8-11-1990 wherein it has been stated that all banks, except Canara Bank and SBI, are in the "RED", mainly because the banking network has lost over Rs. 44,000 crores in the last three decades;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof,

(c) what are the reasons for incurring losses by these banks;

(d) what is the balance sheet chart of each nationalised bank for the last five years, year-wise and bank-wise; and

(e) what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have seen the newsitem appeared in the Hindustan Times of 8th November, 1990 under the heading "Banks question RBI 'sick list'". It may not be correct to say that all banks, except Canara Bank and State Bank of India, are in the red. As per the published annual accounts for the year 1989-90, all the public sector banks, except New Bank of India and UCO Bank have shown profits aggregating to Rs. 366 88 crores. New Bank of India and UCO Bank have shown losses of Rs. 9.89 crores and Rs. 54.59 crores respectively.

(c) Banks being credit institutions, the risk of certain advances turning sticky and thereby resulting in losses to the concerned banks is inherent in the system. Advances may turn sticky due to certain internal and external factors such as lack of adequate credit appraisal machinery, ineffective post disbursement supervision, recessionary trends in the industry, natural calamities etc.

(d) The profits in respect of the public sector banks during the period 1985 to 31st March, 1990 as per their published Balance Sheets are given in that Annexure (*See* Appendix CLVI, Annexure No. 2)

(e) Government and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have been impressing upon the banks the need to strengthen their machinery for credit appraisal and for exercising effective supervision and control over advances. RBI has also advised the banks to institute a system of classification of their advances into distinct categories according to the health of advances at a given point of time for the purpose of their effective monitoring and follow up.

Government and Reserve Bank of India have also taken a series of measures to improve the performance and profitability of the public sector banks. These include augmentation of the capital base of the banks, rationalisation of service charges and interest rates structure and levy of commitment charges on unutilised portion of operating limits. Banks have also been advised to take measures to effect economy in their expenditure and to strengthen their viability and profitability by means of effective business, planning and development.

**Visit of high level business mission to Singapore**

90. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level business mission team led by the Chairman of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce left for Singapore in the month of November, 1990;

(b) if so, the names of members in the above teams; and

(c) the nature of talks held and whether any decision has been arrived at?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) A Trade Mission from Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce visited Singapore during Nov. '90 on their way back from Australia.

(b) The list of the names of the member of the Trade Mission is given in statement. (*See* below)

(c) This Trade Mission had a meeting with the Singapore International Chambers of Commerce and Industry (SICCI) on November 23, 1990 during which possible areas of co-operation in trade and Industry/investment were discussed.

**Statement**

*Composition of the Trade Mission*

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|---|---|
| (1) Shri V. Chidambaram, Chairman, Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry. | Automobile Thermostates for engine Jacket cooling system |
| (2) Shri K.V. Shetty, Director, India Pistons Ltd. | Pistons, piston rings, gudgeon, pins & cylinder liners. |
| (3) Shri T.S. Varadarajan, Partner, STUD India. | Industrial fasteners. |
| (4) Shri N. Kannan, Secretary, Madras Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Indo-Australian Chamber. | Mission Secretary |
| (5) Shri S.M. Bilgrami, Special Officer—Exports Ashok Leyland Ltd. | Autos pares, diesel engines, textiles, pumps, etc. |